HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 944

By Evans

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the members of the Springfield High School Mock Trial Team, 2014 Tennessee State High School Mock Trial champions.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to recognize those outstanding students who, through success in competition, bring great honor to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such group of exemplary students are the members of the Springfield High School Mock Trial Team, who recently won the Tennessee State High School Mock Trial Competition and will represent Tennessee in the national competition in Madison, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee State High School Mock Trial Competition is an annual event sponsored by the Young Lawyers Division of the Tennessee Bar Association with schools first competing at the district level to earn the right to advance to the state competition; and

WHEREAS, the Springfield High School Mock Trial Team advanced to the state competition after winning the Sixth District mock trial competition in February, where they also won awards for Most Verdicts and Highest Round Score; and

WHEREAS, assuming the roles of attorneys and witnesses, students this year were required to present a model court case about a songwriter suing a music industry professional for copyright infringement; the case required a complex understanding of copyright law and music theory; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, hard work, and preparation of the Springfield High School Mock Trial Team resulted in the school's first state championship; team member Maddie Loving won an individual award in addition to being named the MVP of the team; and

WHEREAS, the outstanding students who comprise this championship team include Maddie Loving, Reena Patel, Crystal Lemus, Kylie Ronnow, and Anighya Crocker as the attorneys and Olivia Harris, Charlotte Padfield, Susannah White, Juwan Cross, Sarah Jones, and Grace Shoemaker as the witnesses; and

WHEREAS, the team enjoys the expertise and leadership of their attorney coaches,

Magistrate Lisa Richter and Marisa Combs, and Springfield High School faculty advisors, Leslie

Diehm and Tim Overstreet; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this legislative body should pause to commend the superlative talent and effort of the Springfield High School Mock Trial Team on their championship win; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the members and coaches of the Springfield High School Mock Trial Team on their state championship and extend to them our best wishes for continued success in the national competition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.